

Crystal Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Minutes
October 12, 2016
Crystal Community Center

The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm. Commission members in attendance were: Nancy LaRoche, Erin Kolb, Lynn Haney, Mark Novak, Meredith Torres-Walsh, Lori Merriam and Guy Mueller. Also present were Elizabeth Dahl from the City Council; and Scott Berggren, Brad Fortin and John Elholm from the city staff.

Commissioner Kolb made a motion to approve the September minutes; Commissioner Torres-Walsh seconded the motion. The minutes for September were approved as written.

Commissioner LaRoche gave the chairperson report. She discussed the openings on the commission resulting from the resignation of Park and Recreation Advisory Commission member Bamba, and the potential resignation of Commission member Hildre. Mr. Elholm will look into who is able to be involved in new commission interviews.

The Park and Recreation Advisory Commission (PRC) would also like an agenda item added for public input time, modeled after City Council meetings.

Mr. Elholm discussed the park system and Becker Park master plans. A Request for Proposals (RFP) was sent to three consulting firms that do this type of work. The consultant that is chosen will build on planning efforts and surveys already completed by the Park and Recreation Advisory Commission and others.

Mr. Elholm has met with Three Rivers Park District staff to discuss a potential partnership for upgrades to MAC Park. The setting of the park fits well with the park district's mission, and Crystal staff will continue to work with them to further explore partnership options.

Mr. Elholm reviewed the Open Meeting Law (OML) as it relates to the PRC. Commissioners were reminded not to 'reply all' with e-mails and to be careful to not discuss commission business when at social gatherings - like park events.

Reports were given by Ms. Dahl for the City Council, Mr. Fortin for park maintenance, and Mr. Berggren for park programming. Mr. Mueller gave a report for the Crystal Fund, which included discussion on a donation from the fund for two new 'expression' swings and one replacement handicap accessible swing.

Other Business / Community News – Ms. Haney reminded commissioners of an upcoming Crystal Frolics meeting. There was also a discussion on park photographs on the web site. Recreation staff has updated many photos and they continue to update pages as photographs are obtained. PRC members would like to be added to the Recreation brochure each season.

Mr. Mueller made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Haney seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 2 at 7:00 pm – at the Crystal Community Center.

John Elholm
Recorder